

## **Antithetic Language Regarding the Law in the NT**

(Antithetic: negative, opposite, opposing, denial)

### **in light of Matthew 5.17**

**Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets;  
I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.**

### **and Romans 8.7**

**There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup> For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. <sup>3</sup> For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, <sup>4</sup> in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.**

1. What wrong use of the law best identifies the antitheses of the following passages?

Decide if it is one of the following: law aggravates sin's bondage, law gives promises, and law is misused for justification.

Matthew 11.13, **the Law prophesied until John** [after John we do *not* have it]

John 1.17, **For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.**

Romans 3.21, **now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law**

Romans 6.14, **For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.**

Romans 3.28, **For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.**

Acts 15.10, **Now, therefore, why are you putting God to the test by placing a yoke [of Law] on the neck of the disciples that neither our fathers nor we have been able to bear?**

Romans 5.20, **Now the law came in to increase the trespass, but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more**

1 Corinthians 9.20-21, **To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though *not being myself under the law*) that I might win those under the law. <sup>21</sup> To those outside the law *I became as one outside the law* (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law.**

1 Timothy 1.9...**the law is not laid down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners**

2A. What positive and good uses of the law do these “negative” texts imply?

3A. Do we have an antithesis of law versus grace in John 1.17? **For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.**